

The Vietnam War, Black oppression, environmental ravage are primary issues involved in today's chaos. But are these issues the causes of the desolation or are they merely symptoms of a deeper, more basic trouble? If they are merely symptoms, getting rid of them will only lead to the reappearance of more. The only way to irradiate the problems of today is to cure the deeper cause.

One basic cause is that society has made man the center of reality. This has led to anarchy. Another cause is that individuals have made themselves the center of their reality. This has led to self-centeredness. A society made up of individuals, each pursuing his own interests, cannot function effectively no matter how well organized it is. Jesus Christ has said, "For it is from inside, from men's hearts and minds, that evil thoughts arise" (Mark 7:21).

All of the causes of today's tension are rooted in one fundamental factor: Man is alienated from God. As individuals and as a society we are suffering the consequences of this alienation.

Trying to cure the symptoms of this chaos in which we are involved is essential, but the results are short-lived. To affect a lasting change in society, individuals must be changed by allowing God to place a new nature within them. Man's alienation must be overcome by the establishment of a relationship with the infinite, personal God. Only through the acceptance of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ can this relationship be established.

Only when man's relationship with God is right can his relationships with others and his world be right.

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